

Applicants : Ian A. McCabe, Hamid Habibi, Desaraju V. Varaprasad and Niall R. Lynam
Serial No. : 10/528,269
Page : 24

Remarks:

The amendments and remarks presented herein are believed to be fully responsive to the Office Action dated October 4, 2006.

Claims 2-17, 19-32, 34-39 and 41-50 are pending in the application. Claims 1, 18, 33 and 40 have been canceled herein without prejudice and claims 2-5, 8-10, 15, 17, 19, 20, 24-27, 34-37, 41, 43-45 and 48-50 have been amended as set forth above. The specification has been amended to update several incorporated patent applications that have now issued as patents and to correct a typographical error found in the application. The amendments are fully supported in the specification and drawings as originally filed. No new matter has been added.

ALLOWABLE CLAIMS

Claims 4-8, 10-12, 17, 24, 25, 27, 29-32, 35, 37-39 and 44-50 were indicated as being directed toward allowable subject matter and as being allowable if rewritten in independent form. Applicants have amended claims 4, 5, 8, 10, 17, 24, 27, 35, 37, 44, 45 and 48-50 to be in independent form, such that claims 4-8, 10-14, 17, 24, 27-32, 35, 37-39 and 44-50 are now in condition for allowance. Applicants have also amended dependent claims 2, 3, 9, 15, 19, 20, 25, 26, 34, 36, 41 and 43 to depend on allowable and now independent claims 8, 10, 24, 27, 35 and 48, such that claims 2-17, 19-32, 34-39 and 41-50 are in condition for allowance.

CLAIM REJECTIONS

Claims 1-3, 9 and 40-43 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Chu et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,441,964, in view of You, U.S. Patent No. 7,106,392. Claims 1, 18-23, 26, 28, 33, 34, 36 and 40 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Varaprasad et al., U.S. Patent Publication No. 2005/0083577. Claims 1, 13-

Applicants : Ian A. McCabe, Hamid Habibi, Desaraju V. Varaprasad and Niall R. Lynam
Serial No. : 10/528,269
Page : 25

15, 18-23, 26, 28, 33, 34, 36 and 40 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Tonar et al., U.S. Patent Publication No. 2006/0126150. Claim 16 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Tonar et al., in view of Wong, U.S. Patent Publication No. 2002/0036828.

Applicants respectfully traverse the rejections under § 102(b) and §103(a). However, in order to expedite prosecution and allowance of the claims, and without acquiescing in the rejection in any way, Applicants have canceled independent claims 1, 18, 33 and 40 without prejudice, so that the subject matter of these claims may be pursued in a continuation application in the future. Applicants have also amended claims 2, 3, 9, 15, 19, 20, 25, 26, 34, 36, 41 and 43 to be dependent on the allowable and now independent claims 8, 10, 24, 27, 35 and 48, such that claims 2-17, 19-32, 34-39 and 41-50 are now in condition for allowance.

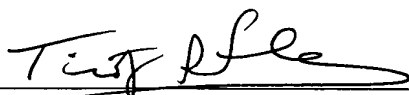
Claims 2-17, 19-32, 34-39 and 41-50 remain pending in the application. Applicants respectfully submit that claims 2-17, 19-32, 34-39 and 41-50 are in condition for allowance and a notice to that effect is earnestly and respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

IAN A. MCCABE ET AL.

By: Van Dyke, Gardner, Linn & Burkhardt, LLP

Date: December 26, 2006.



Timothy A. Flory
Registration No. 42 540
2851 Charlevoix Drive, S.E., Suite 207
P.O. Box 888695
Grand Rapids, Michigan 49588-8695
(616) 975-5500

DON01 P-1109
TAF:ell